

REMARKS

The Office Action dated November 15, 2005, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendment and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 3 and 9 have been amended. Claims 11 and 12 have been canceled without prejudice. Therefore, claims 3 and 9 are pending in the present application.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd Paragraph

Claims 3, 9, 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 3 and 9 have been amended to obviate this rejection. Claims 11 and 12 have been canceled and therefore the rejection with respect to these claims is now moot.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 3, 9, 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,504,701 A, hereinafter "Takahashi") in view of Shi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,415,386 B1, hereinafter "Shi") and Oruc et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,270,956 A, hereinafter "Oruc"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 3, as amended, recites a point storing member comprising, among other features, a point rewrite information storing portion for storing point rewrite information, and a point changing means for changing the points based on the stored point rewrite information when said combined cryptogram data matches with said external cryptogram.

Claim 9, as amended, recites a point storing member comprising, among other features, a point rewrite information storing portion for storing point rewrite information, and a changing means that changes the points stored in said storing means with the stored point rewrite information and based on a predetermined result from the comparison by said comparing means.

It is respectfully submitted that the prior art fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-mentioned features of the Applicants' invention.

One embodiment of the present invention provides a point storing member 1 having a point storing portion 3, a read portion 5, a point changing portion 7, a point rewrite information storing portion 13 and a collating portion 11.

The cryptogram collating portion 63, in one embodiment of the present invention, has comparators 71 and 73, and a data converting circuit 75, also shown for example in Figure 3. In one example, when secret data area 54 has stored a cryptogram "10100000" and the IC card user has stored "1010" in secret data area 53 as his/her own cryptogram or pass word, collation of the cryptogram is collated. The data converting circuit 75 converts the cryptogram "10100000" in the secret data area 54, which can result in a converted cryptogram of "0101111." Thereafter, the comparator 72 is supplied with a cryptogram "10100101111," which is a combination of the cryptogram "1010" of the IC card user stored in secret data area 53 and "0101111" following the cryptogram "1010." The comparator 71, for example, determines whether the input data applied from the main controller 69 for collation matches with the above cryptogram "10100101111" or not.

Hence, according to at least the above example of the embodiment, the cryptogram of secret data 54 is converted and added to the cryptogram in secret data area 53 for comparison with the cryptogram data applied from main controller 69 for collation.

Accordingly, the present invention provides the advantage where the IC card manufacturer can store the cryptograms, which are different from each other and are dedicated to the IC card users, respectively, in secret data areas 53. Thereby, no confusion occurs even when two IC card users accidentally stored the same cryptogram in secret data areas 53, respectively. Thus, one of the users cannot erase the data in the IC card of the other user.

Applicants submit that Takahashi in view of Shi and further in view of Oruc fail to disclose or suggest each and every element recited in claims 3 and 9 of the present application. In particular, it is submitted that the combination of the memory card of Takahashi, with the cryptogram lock system of Shi, and with the system and method for performing fast algebraic operations on a permutation network of Oruc is neither comparable nor analogous to the portable point storing member of the present invention.

For instance, it is submitted that neither Takahashi, Shi nor Oruc discloses at least a point rewrite information storing portion for storing point rewrite information, and a point changing means for changing the points based on the stored point rewrite information when said combined cryptogram data matches with said external cryptogram of claim 3, and at least a point rewrite information storing portion for storing point rewrite information, and a changing means that changes the points stored in said

storing means with the stored point rewrite information and based on a predetermined result from the comparison by said comparing means of claim 9.

Therefore, Applicants submit that the cited prior art fails to disclose each and every element recited in claims 3 and 9 of the present application.

To establish *prima facie* obviousness, each feature of a rejected claim must be taught or suggested by the applied art of record. See M.P.E.P. §2143.03 and In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981 (CCPA 1974). As explained above, Takahashi in view of Shi and further in view of Oruc do not teach or suggest each feature recited in claims 3 and 9. Accordingly, for the above provided reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3 and 9 are not rendered obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 by the teachings of Takahashi in view of Shi and further in view of Oruc, and therefore are allowable.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the above, the Applicants respectfully request the allowance of claims 3 and 9 and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper,

may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. 100806-09020.

Respectfully submitted,



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